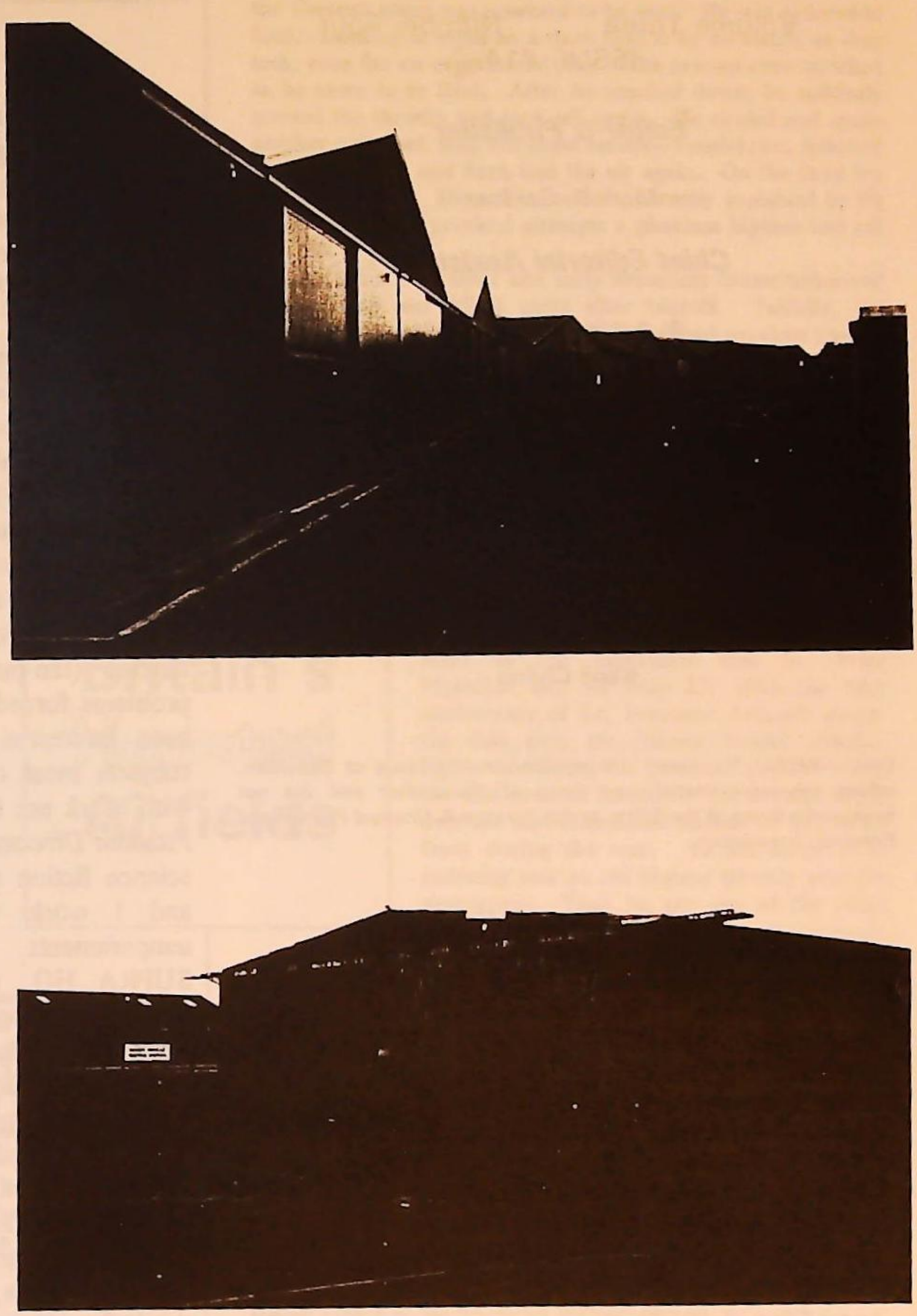
ELSEWHERE

The Journal of the Strange & Unusual Phenomena Research Association

Volume Three **ISSUE #14** **Number Four**

$2.00 in the U.S. $2.50 Canada/Mexico $3.00 Elsewhere



Featuring:

The Ghosts of Scotland's Montrose Aerodrome
UFO's and the Ocean
The *Oni* of Japan
New Universes: Do "Alternates" Exist?
And Many Other Features

ELSEWHEN
THE JOURNAL OF
THE STRANGE & UNUSUAL PHENOMENA
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
(Formerly *The Temporal Anomaly Research Association*)

Volume Three Number Four
ISSUE #14

Editor & Publisher

Mark R. Gardner

Chief Editorial Assistant

S. Ashley Kristensen

Contributors to This Issue

Hugh Trotti
Kimberly Wajer
Bufo Calvin
Courtney Phillips
Thomas A. Luce
Malána Jackson
Gary Mangiacopra
Kenji Chōno

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions in this issue of *Elsewhen*, unless otherwise stated, are those of the author and are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Strange & Unusual Phenomena Research Association.

IN THIS ISSUE:

The Ghosts of Scotland's Montrose Aerodrome	3
The "Mystery Hill" Mystery	5
Hairy Blobs Explained?	6
UFOs and the Ocean	7
Monster Menagerie: The *Oni* of Japan	10
New Universes: Do "Alternates" Exist?	11
Off the Bookshelf	12
Fortean Research On A Budget — Tip #6	13
From a Psi-ologist's Notebook: Definitions	14
The Myth of the Great Lakes Triangle	15
Translucent Time Travellers/Doubtful Islands	16
Local Clips of 1992	17
Research Trip Summary: Great Britain 1991	18

ELSEWHEN is published quarterly by the Strange & Unusual Phenomena Research Association, P.O. Box 20173, Keizer, OR 97307-0173, U.S.A. ©1992 by SUPRA. Price per copy is $2.00 in the U.S. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SUPRA, P.O. Box 20173, Keizer, OR 97307.

FROM THE Assistant's Desk

Greetings, friends! Welcome to the fourteenth issue of *Elsewhen*. You probably immediately noticed a different face above. Well, it's me, the Chief Editorial Assistant! Mark decided I was ready to put an issue together. In a couple of marathon sessions I formatted it at SUPRA HQ, a.k.a. Mark's home. (He had already typed up all the articles — I had to squeeze them into the space!) I was also given the okay to experiment with the cover design. Let me know what you think about this issue.

First of all, let me tell you a little about myself. (I've already scolded the Editor for not doing this himself earlier!) I am 26, single, and a native Oregonian, like Mark. I have been writing romance and fantasy stories since high school under a pseudonym, and published a small fantasy fanzine (fan-published magazine) until personal problems forced me to stop in early 1990. I have been interested in the supernatural and fortean subjects most of my life. I became acquainted with Mark not through *Elsewhen*, but through *The Fandom Directory*, as he is listed in there with his science fiction and fantasy interests. Your editor and I work well together; we have similar temperaments. I live about an hour's drive from SUPRA HQ, so it is often difficult to work together. I appreciate the opportunity he gave to keep my fingers in publishing, without the monthly pressures my own publication brought. I will never forget Mark's reaching out with open arms to a total stranger and treating her like a long-lost friend. As I get comfortable in this position, I'll start to contribute articles.

I've already mentioned my "experimental" format changes, but you should also notice that this issue is two pages bigger than usual. 20 pages is the new permanent size Mark approved before handing me the reins. This issue has an eclectic variety of material. There should be something for everyone. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did putting it together.

S.A.K.

The Ghosts of Scotland's Montrose Aerodrome

by Mark Gardner

In my article "Strange Happenings in Northeast Scotland" in Issue #11, I introduced you to some of the stories of strange happenings at the Montrose Aerodrome in Scotland. Although I had lived in that area for nearly a year and a half (1982-83), most of my close friends lived in Montrose, and had been back for two months a year later, I was only vaguely aware of stories of strange happenings that occurred there. I began to dig for information after the mother of my friend Linda mentioned that Linda's brother walked the dog at the "haunted" aerodrome.

Before I go on with this article, I want to reprint the section of my previous article that is pertinent to this discussion. This will refresh the memories of long-time subscribers as will as bringing those who are newer to *Elsewhen* up to speed:

The Phantom Pilots of Montrose Aerodrome

The aerodrome at Montrose was a bustling facility during the First and Second World Wars. Although it now stands abandoned, the stories of ghostly sightings have continued to the present day. The first official ghost on record appears to be that of Lt. Desmond L. Arthur, who was killed on May 27, 1913. While descending for a landing, the upper wing of the biplane collapsed and all control was lost. Unfortunately, in those days, parachutes were not standard equipment. Arthur was thrown from the out-of-control plane and fell to his death before many horrified eyewitnesses. Rumors persisted for some time afterwards that the plane had been deliberately tampered with by a disgruntled mechanic.

Many planes crashed and pilots died during these early pioneering days of flight. Lt. Arthur would probably have been quickly forgotten if not for the apparent fact that his spirit remained at the field. The aerodrome at Montrose became a training field after the war broke out in Europe. Beginning in 1916, personnel at the field began seeing a phantom pilot walking in front of them to the mess, only to vanish as it reached the door. The phantom pilot also appeared in other locations around the No. 2 Mess. On one occasion two men on sentry duty fled in terror when a figure they challenged faded away before their very eyes. Charges of desertion were quickly dropped when their story was told. The ghost of Lt. Arthur supposedly made his last appearance in early 1917 and was never seen again after a final, belated ruling from a board of inquiry cleared his name and blamed his death solely on the failed wing.

Then came the Second World War and Hurricane fighters were based at the airfield. One night in 1940, a German Heinkel bomber buzzed the field. An experienced night flier was sent aloft to intercept the German plane before it could return to bomb the field. By the time the pilot got into the air the German plane was nowhere to be seen. He was ordered to land. Landing at night on a dark field is by no means an easy task, even for an experienced pilot. The ground crew watched as he came in to land. After he touched down, he suddenly gunned the throttle and took off again. He circled and made another approach with the same results—Touchdown, followed by full throttles and back into the air again. On the third try he safely landed. His actions were apparently explained by his claim that on his previous attempts a phantom biplane had cut him off!

In 1942 a very strict and surly lieutenant (name unknown) crashed and was killed right after takeoff. Initially, the mechanic who serviced the plane and had had previous trouble with the pilot was accused of rigging the plane in revenge. The charges were dropped due to lack of evidence. In a startling parallel to the death and haunting of Lt. Arthur, this pilot began to appear quite often. It got to be such a nuisance, that all new flight cadets were eventually briefed on the "ghost" upon arrival. The sightings gradually faded away, but from time to time this phantom pilot was seen entering the building that had formerly housed the base morgue. It is unclear if he is still appearing today.

As if all of this wasn't strange enough, listen to the experience that Sir Peter Masefield had on May 27, 1963—the 50th anniversary of Lt. Desmond Arthur's death: On that day, the famous British aviation figure was flying his personal airplane along the east coast of Scotland. He decided to fly over the now-abandoned airfield he had flown from during the war. To his surprise he suddenly saw an old biplane directly over the aerodrome. Then he saw one of the wings buckle and the plane spin into the ground. The shocked Sir Masefield made a landing on a nearby golf course and ran to the old airfield. Nothing! He was bewildered to discover that there was absolutely no trace of the accident he had just seen. So it seems that the restless spirit of Lt. Arthur might still occasionally reenact his last moments.

Today the abandoned airfield is used as a campground, people take their dogs for walks there, and several old hangars are used by local businesses. One can't help wonder if every once in awhile someone sees a figure walking in front of them, wearing flight gear. I intend to do a lot of research into this subject and take pictures when in Scotland next time. I am considering writing a long feature article or maybe even a book on the ghosts of the Montrose aerodrome.

I was fortunate that my time in Scotland coincided with a monthly meeting of the Montrose Aerodrome Museum Society. The members were quite surprised and pleased to have a Yank show up at their meeting unannounced! After the meeting I sat and talked to the current chairman, Ian G. McIntosh, about each of the above-mentioned stories of events at the old aerodrome site. He soon demolished the

Britain's Haunted Airfields

majority of these stories as exaggerations, myths or stories made up by some writer with a deadline to meet.

How I wish that I had had a tape recorder along, since Mr. McIntosh proceeded to tell me some of the *real* stories of strange happenings tied to Montrose. These were from first-hand personal accounts the society had collected over the years from the actual witnesses. As I was a stranger to them, I was not given access to the witness files they have. I hope this will change in the future. I was given permission to spend the night at their museum when it is up and running in the near future. The museum is to be housed in the old headquarters building which is currently boarded up. I got a big surprise when an article about the meeting appeared in a local newspaper, prominently mentioning me, although they spelled my surname in the Scottish way (see below).

US guest for spook night in building

LEGEND HAS it that Montrose has several ghosts floating around but the Montrose ghost is the one that haunts the aerodrome.

The spook has attracted international interest and at the monthly meeting of the Montrose Aerodrome Museum Society one of the guests was Mark Gardiner from the United States who made the visit in order to ask questions concerning the apparition.

On learning that the society has acquired the old station headquarters building—a centre for many of the hauntings—Mark expressed a wish to spend the night there once the society had installed itself.

Speaker at the meeting was assistant curator of Montrose Museum Rachel Eames. She defined the differences between museums and collections.

Museums retain items under curatorial supervision while the collections could be utilised by the owner in any way without undue worry as to their deterioration.

She commented that the conditions under which the society stores its collection were good and a promise was made that when the collection is transferred to the society's newly acquired station headquarters building, full advice on the display and conservation of the items would be available from Montrose Museum and the Scottish Museums Council.

The society will have a stall at RAF Leuchars Open Day on Saturday.

The article which appeared in the Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1991 edition of *The Courier and Advertiser*.

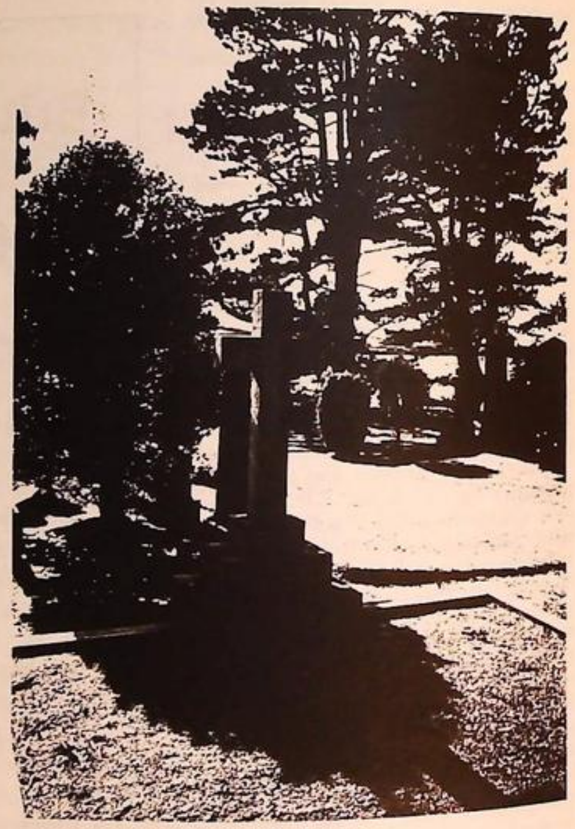
A few of the details in my previous article turned out to be a little inaccurate. This is the problem with researching and then writing an article from thousands of miles away using second-hand information and having never been to the actual place in person before.

"Abandoned" was apparently the wrong word to use in describing the former airfield. The whole hangar area is basically intact and local businesses use the former hangars for shop space and storage. The Ministry of Transportation uses one as a testing station. The area around the control tower shell and outlying areas has gone back to the wild or for grazing of sheep. I had to watch where I stepped while exploring!. The runways and most of the taxiways have reverted back to grassy meadow. I was told that on the far side of the former aerodrome one grass strip is kept in shape by a local flying club. I could see a faded windsock far across the field when I was there. So I would now use the word "disused" instead of "abandoned".

The afternoon I visited the Montrose Aerodrome site was a clear mid-September day in 1991. I accompanied an acquaintance, David Strachan, who was fairly familiar with the site. We walked in through the front gate and past the trailer which temporarily houses the Montrose Aerodrome Historical Society museum. I was impressed with all of the intact and well-preserved hangars. If not for them, I would not have known this had been an active airfield at one time. Many other old airfields have long since disappeared.

I stood there in the slight breeze and tried to imagine the hustle and bustle of the place during WWII. We continued towards the remains of the control tower, stopping to inspect an intact bomb shelter on the way.

(Continued on Page 18)



Lt. Desmond Arthur's grave at Sleepyhillock Cemetery outside Montrose.

Our Strange World

The "Mystery Hill" Mystery

by Hugh H. Trotti

"Mystery Hill" is a place not known to very many. This site is found in the United States near North Salem, New Hampshire, and is a puzzle indeed. Consisting of stone structures which appear of a "megalithic" age, it has managed to be largely ignored by archaeologists, or to irritate those who consider it. It is said to include drainage channels and outlying boulders for line-of-sight solstice observation.

"Megalithic", meaning "of large stone", brings to mind the famous Mycenaean Greek fortified places, such as Tiryns, as well as prehistoric structures which are presumed to mark ancient grave-sites. In fact, some of the "Mystery Hill" structures are built with quite large stones, and would have required the efforts of quite a few people to construct. But the term "megalithic" implies, though it does not require, a date as early as perhaps 1,500 B.C., and possibly even older — as well as the implication of Old World type constructions in the New World at an unlikely date.

The megalithic tomb sites of Ireland are thought to date from the Irish Neolithic Age that began about 3,200 B.C. or even somewhat earlier, though the tomb structures may be of a somewhat later date.[1] It seems curious that, whereas many megalithic sites occur along or near the seacoasts of Ireland, France, the island of Jersey, and various other places, early sea-going ability still seems to be doubted by scholars.[2] But Julius Caesar's campaign narratives include descriptions of some northern ships with good capacities for ocean travel that were encountered during his campaign of 56 B.C. in Gaul.[3]

Although New Hampshire is known as "The Granite State", one would expect any early historical structures to be built of wood. In the woodlands of the American Northeast, wood is the easiest and most likely building material. But Mystery Hill is a site with more than a half-dozen structures made of large slabs and boulders of solid rock — unusual for Native American building in the northeast.

The date is claimed by the owner of the site to be as old as 2,000 B.C., but such an early date seems dubious. The author Rupert Furneaux has some descriptions of the site in his paperback book *Ancient Mysteries*,[4] and presents a date of ca. 1,000 B.C., but with the reservation that it may indicate early Indian occupation. The date might easily be due to early Indians on or near the site, and so may be irrelevant; after all, Indians had already been in North America for 10,000 years or even more.

There has been a claim by Barry Fell, in his controversial book *Bronze Age America*, of a date of 200 A.D.[5], which was found from material taken from between some of the Mystery Hill stonework. That date catches the reader's attention, because of something from the history of Scotland.

Firstly, Scotland contains historical structures somewhat similar to the stone structures in New Hampshire. These are called *souterrains*. They are made so that their tops are more or less level with the ground *and* they are made of stone. One archaeological contention is that they were storage places for cereal crops, which were outgrown when the yields became too large.[6] In any event, they were probably, in many cases, "basements" for wood structures built above them [which have not survived].

Secondly, during the ancient Roman occupation of Britain, the "Picts" and their allies from Ireland periodically raided south past Roman fortification walls and were in turn periodically punished by Roman legions marching north. A few such Roman forays took place about the years 210-211 A.D., and the souterrains ceased being built about the year 200 A.D. Given the "about", the dates seem close (especially considering the plus-or-minus attached to Carbon 14 dates).

Thinking that the Roman legions may have destroyed the souterrains, one then wonders (considering Fell's date of 200 A.D.) if the people in the north of Scotland knew of America. Might they have travelled across the ocean to build their souterrains again?

Since the Romans deliberately suppressed Druidism, as well as their better-known suppression of Christianity, it was possible that the "barbarians" of the north of Scotland fled to America for religious freedom. Knowing the power of Rome and its legions, they may have felt Ireland was not far enough away for safety.

In any event, this writer put such thoughts into an article that appeared in the summer of 1992,[7] and included a brief description to show how it would been possible for early ships to sail from Scotland past the Orkney Isles — and from there to the Shetlands, the Faeroes, Iceland, Greenland, Newfoundland, and then New England. By reaching land in stages, such step-by-step voyages should have seemed safer to ancient mariners who disliked sailing out of sight of land.

Not all structures of Mystery Hill are basement types; several are built above-ground. One is a sort of very heavy "altar" which weighs over four tons, with a channel or duct leading from beneath it to a nearby structure in which a person could conceal himself and have his voice carry through the duct and emerge from under the "altar". [This was the technique used at various ancient oracle sites to create a god's or disembodied spirit's voice out of nowhere. *The Editor*] There are apparent drainage grooves cut in the top of the "altar" or "sacrifice stone".

Some scholars believe Mystery Hill was built by colonial farmers, but the so-called "altar" seems to refute such a notion. It may well be that farmers later built houses over some of the "basement"-type structures, repeating what may have been an early Scottish pattern and thereby making "root cellars" for themselves.

(Continued on Page 8)

THE CRYPTOZOO

HAIRY BLOBS EXPLAINED?

by Hugh H. Trotti

A knowledge of "hairy blobs" is more or less restricted to those interested in the various studies taking place in the new area called "Cryptozoology". Since that area includes many different levels of quality and scientific effort, and is not confined to such subjects as a possible "Bigfoot" or "Loch Ness Monster", many different items of interest may be followed. One such is the "hairy blob".

Cryptozoology as a field is comprised of both serious scientists, some connected with prestigious institutions, and amateurs, laymen, and adventurers of various sorts. The main group, the International Society of Cryptozoology, issues both newsletters and yearly peer-reviewed journals, and is coordinated by J.R. Greenwell, who filmed an interesting Chinese expedition searching for a possible "Wildman", which was broadcast by public TV stations.

One of the oddities presented in a newsletter of the organization was an account of "blobs" washed up on coasts in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans — blobs covered with stringy material resembling hair, and comprised of a tough, cartilaginous material. Was this a "new" life-form not heretofore discovered, whose living members lurked in the depths of the seas?

The blobs have also been written up in various books that deal with unexplained things and events. Some descriptions imply that the blobs are somehow alive, and that if one holds a cigarette lighter against them, the tissue "moves away" from the heat. All in all, a most peculiar report, indeed.

Perhaps the answer to the puzzle of "What could that be?" can be found in one of the works of author Daniel Cohen. In *The Encyclopedia of Monsters* (New York: Dorset Press, 1989, pp. 174-176), Cohen presents an interpretation of a curiosity that he calls "Pseudoplesiosaur". It seems that badly decomposed carcasses of some odd creature are sometimes washed up on coasts and found by people who note the resemblance to the extinct marine reptile of long ago.

The body of the basking shark, sometimes being washed up on coasts, was presented by Cohen because of its resemblance to the extinct plesiosaur. The decomposition results in the loss of the gill structure with the jaws early on, and the dorsal fin goes quickly as well. The bottom lobe of the tail carries no skeletal structure, and so rots and falls away soon. The portion of the carcass remaining after these losses so resembles a possible "plesiosaur" (the side fins resembling "flippers"), that when it washes ashore it is often so identified. Cohen titles this section of his work "PSEUDOPLESIOSAUR".

We remember that some individuals interested in the "Loch Ness Monster" phenomenon believe that a remnant non-extinct plesiosaur population is responsible for claimed sightings at Loch Ness.

Cohen's description inspires us to apply it elsewhere, as a possible explanation of the "Hairy Blob" puzzle. We note particularly his description of the decomposition of muscle fibers in the basking shark carcass (p. 176):

> **"... when the shark's skin decomposes, the underlying muscle fibers begin to break up into whiskerlike fibers which tend to give the carcass the appearance of being covered with fur..."**

Is it possible that this description applies to the "blob" problem as well as to the "pseudoplesiosaur"? If so, the blob itself will represent the final stages of decay of some more "regular" denizen of the oceans, and the peculiar "hairy" or string-like structures surrounding it may represent the simple decomposition of muscle fibers.

We might also note as a final comment on this phenomenon that Marco Polo described the hairy body of a huge fish found on the bed of a river whose water had been diverted away. He stated that some who ate of it died. Could this be explained by the same decay processes cited by Cohen, that result in "hair-like" appearances? (For the Marco Polo account, cf. Polo, Marco, *The Travels*, New York: Penguin Books, paperback, 1982, p. 228).

THE WILD PLACES

— a new journal of the paranormal

UFOs, crop circles, ghosts, Spiritualism, visions, aliens, guides, exorcism and much more.

ISSUE 4 OUT NOW

Our biggest and best issue yet - 40 packed pages including:

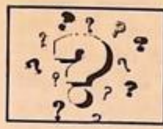
Jenny Randalls on her understanding of her contacts with alien intelligences, Leslie Price on Spiritualist history, the Prison Earth Theory of existence explored by Martin Kottmeyer, End Times Bulletin, Talking to Strangers, Urban Shamen Phil Hine on consemporary occultism, Chris Harvey with Do We Have A Spirit, Peter Hough Looking For The Aliens and the biggest review and listing of specialist journals currently published anywhere in the world!

$4 CASH — Sample issue £1.65. 4-issue subscription, £6 from: — $15 CASH

Kevin McClure, 42 Victoria Road, Mount Charles, St. Austell, Cornwall PL25 4QD.

FAST FACTS — OUR MAIL IN 1992

From January 1st to December 1st we received 927 pieces of mail at SUPRA HQ addressed to TARA, SUPRA or *Elsewhen*!



Theories & Ideas

UFOs and the Ocean

by
Thomas A. Luce

Scientists and many people have been obsessed with trying to find extraterrestrial intelligence on some planet somewhere in the universe. Therefore, these people reason that UFOs (unidentified flying objects) just have to be coming from some advanced civilization on some planet in the vast universe. That is a mistake!

UFOs do not come from some planet somewhere out there in the universe. They come from our very own Planet Earth, that is, from the ocean! There is an intelligent species of beings dwelling in the ocean depths.

A great invincible hero was portrayed as being the son of a deep-sea intelligent species of beings. In Homer's *Iliad* Thetis is the subterranean "mother" of the hero Achilles. Thetis dwelled at the bottom of the ocean in a great cave, and "rose like a cloud from the bed of the sea."

44% of all deep-sea life have evolved their own bioluminous, colored organs. These species of deep-sea life with the bioluminous, colored organs are able to blink them. This blinking attribute is the way that these species of deep-sea life signal each other or communicate with each other. It is their way of talking. Now there in an intelligent species of deep-sea life (UFOs) that have also evolved their own bioluminous, colored blinking organs. Blinking lights of various colors have been reported in many UFO sightings.

Several species of deep-sea life have a swim bladder that fills with gas as they swim upward toward the surface of the ocean. At this new level, deep-sea fish are practically weightless and can dart about at great speeds and swim very gracefully. There is an intelligent deep-sea species of life that also fills itself with gas as it swims upward toward the surface of the ocean. As this intelligent deep-sea species of life with the bioluminous, colored blinking organs leaves the ocean and enters the atmosphere it would be practically weightless! This explains why UFOs seem to have instant acceleration, great speeds, and great maneuverability! This intelligent deep-sea species of life with the shining attributes (UFOs) is a part of Earth's natural evolution. This intelligent deep-sea species of life evolved naturally in the oceans of the Planet Earth just as the intelligent human being did on land. Thus nature has intelligent beings both in the ocean and on the land.

Would an intelligent, shining deep-sea species of life evolve in the depths of the oceans on some other planet in the universe just as intelligence would evolve on land? I would say so.

Just what is this intelligence? Why should nature produce intelligence?

It is the moral duty of those who write books, especially books of a scientific nature, to inform their readers of the facts.

Thor Heyerdahl wrote: "We saw the shine of phosphorescent eyes drifting on the surface on dark nights, and on one single occasion we saw the sea boil and bubble while something like a big wheel came up and rotated in the air, while some of our dolphins tried to escape by hurling themselves desperately through space." (*Kon-Tiki*, Page 153, Rand McNally, 1976).

This sighting of a "big wheel" that came up out of the ocean was made in 1947 as Thor Heyerdahl and five other men sailed on a balsa wood raft from Lima, Peru, across the Pacific to the Polynesian Islands.

Evidently the rotating "big wheel" terrified the dolphins that had been following the Kon-Tiki balsa wood raft. It has been reported that UFOs terrify animals. How fast did the "big wheel" rotate? What color was it? Was it luminous? Was there any sound? Was a picture taken? How long did the "big wheel" rotate in the air above the ocean? Was it observed descending back into the ocean? There have been many reports of UFOs being wheel-shaped and rotating!

Here is another one by Thor Heyerdahl:

"That night we were given a fright of a quite unexpected kind. Norman roused me in a low voice for the change of watch on June 30 at 0.30 hours and I sat up in my sleeping bag and began to pull on my socks, as the air was raw and cold on the bridge. Then he called again, and this time there was terror in his voice.

"'Come quick, quick! Look there!'

"I dived out of the opening in the wicker wall with Santiago close to my heels and we hoisted ourselves over the cabin roof where Norman was pointing.

"It was like the Day of Judgement. Over the horizon to starboard, in the northwest, rose a pale, round disc, which never completely left the water, but grew and grew, like a phantom aluminum-colored moon rising half-hidden by the rim of the sea, like a compact nebula, brighter than the milky way and symmetrically circular, it grew in size, a stem-mushroom, and seemed to be rushing straight toward us as it spread farther and farther across the sky. My first thought was a reflection against a veil of humanity from an enormous searchlight over the horizon, my next was an atomic cloud caused by human error, or a phenomenon of the northern lights, but the feeling that a scintillating shower

of foreign bodies was descending on us from the cosmos persisted, until the disc of light was covering about thirty degrees of the sky, then it suddenly stopped growing, dissolved almost imperceptibly and disappeared. We were left without an explanation." (*The Ra Expeditions*, Pages 328-329, Doubleday, 1971).

The powerful "Day of Judgement" light was made by our bioluminous, deep-sea dwelling neighbors! This sighting was made as Thor Heyerdahl sailed with five other men on a papyrus reed boat from Safi, Africa, across the Atlantic ocean to Barbados in the Lesser Antilles in 1969.

Here is the description of another sighting from the same book, same page:

"We had seen orange lights on the horizon to the northwest, one was a bright flash with no sign of a ship, the other was drop-shaped and we saw it just as it sailed diagonally down and vanished in the sea."

What about the drop-shaped and orange lights that apparently vanish into the ocean? Many UFO reports describe them as being drop-shaped and orange in color.

The Thing

"There have been several instances when several pieces of sonar equipment on different ships in a task force heard the sound of a great body propelling itself with some powerful mechanism at high speed through the black waters and crushing pressures five miles down. The speed of the things seem to have been as high as those of the most advanced nuclear submarines. The 'thing' could hardly be an animal at these depths — or could it?" (*Mysteries Beneath the Sea* by William R. Corliss, Page 151, Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York, 1970).

"Deep, deep down, five miles deep into the realm of hydrospace, there exists a form of life of which we had not the slightest conception, and which may have possessed physical strength and driving energy that lay beyond the understanding, or even imagination of man." (*Hydrospace* by Martin Caidin, Page 26, E.P. Dutton and Company, New York, 1964).

Here is a modern-day technological discovery of some powerful, unknown submarine entity! Here is almost the one piece of hard physical evidence that those in a position to render judgement would need. This "experience" caused the Navy much apprehension. How is it that no one in the Task Force had the slightest conception of what they were hearing?

These were *sounds* that were picked up on the sonar and hydrophones of different ships in a Task Force of the U.S. Navy in 1963. The U.S. Navy was conducting exercises to train personnel in the detection and tracking of underwater craft, so it was said. These maneuvers were conducted off the coast of Puerto Rico during *Project Mohole* as exploratory drilling was conducted from the bottom of the ocean floor in the Puerto Rican Trench, which has a depth of 30,176 feet. It was the aim of Project Mohole, which was funded by the National Science Foundation, to drill the world's deepest hole from the bottom of the ocean floor, but was never completed. Several other incidents of "things" heard deep under the ocean have been reported by other countries' navies and have been properly documented. Orderly patterns of deliberate signals have been picked up originating from deep under the ocean, indicating intelligence.

We should now know what UFOs are and where they are coming from... The human being is not the Master Creature of the Planet Earth after all!

The UFO mystery is solved!

(Continued from Page 5)

The state authorities and others have removed slabs of stone through the years for bridge building and other uses, leaving the site a mere skeleton of what it may once have been. At least one of the structures may have been a place of refuge in the event of danger, being entered only by crawling down into it on one's stomach. In such a place, even women and children could repel unwanted entrance by using clubs. A few structures are more above-ground, and are claimed to be "temples" by Barry Fell. Whatever they are, the mere fact that they exist is an enigma.

Several things more should be considered: Firstly, Barry Fell makes claims (and presents photographs) of stone structures all over New England, not just in New Hampshire. From other sources we have heard strong claims of the massive prehistoric mining of copper around the Great Lakes.

Some places (thinking especially of the Mystery Hill site) seem to be hidden away to make finding them from the Atlantic coast difficult. For instance, if one followed a river course inland from the Atlantic Ocean to reach Mystery Hill, one would have to pass the first tributary and continue on, then turn to follow northwards a second tributary for some miles, and then walk westward for several miles or so overland to reach the site.

We have the claims of Irish sailings to (perhaps) the New World, like that of the monk St. Brendan (also known as "Brendan the Bold") in a boat made of a wooden frame with leather stretched over it. This type of voyage was actually duplicated in the late 1960's by Tim Severin.

There are claims that there are stone alignments to indicate ancient solstice dates at Mystery Hill. If so, does this prevent an Irish occupation — since the early medieval Irish apparently did not celebrate solstices (but the Saxons did)?[8] The dating of the Mystery Hill site would seem

important in this connection, but firm dating (which separates out Indian presence if they were not the builders) has yet to be done in a convincing manner.

Finally, since farmers often move stones to clear fields or to use in building fences or other structures, it may be that grave markers or some early people or other have been removed, making it impossible to find tell-tale remains. But we have not heard of any attempts at dredging lakes or streams. Late Bronze Age and later Iron Age peoples of Britain often threw weapons into water as sacrifices rather than burying them with the dead, as in earlier times.[9] There is a large pond or lake indicated on modern maps quite near the site of Mystery Hill. It would be interesting to determine if the lake-bed or nearby stream-beds contain ancient weapons, as a possible indicator to what people were at Mystery Hill in very early times. A more detailed and sure dating is required.

Certainly, Barry Fell's claims seem exaggerated and his theories somewhat unlikely. Nevertheless, it seems that he has called attention to something real — at least so far as "Mystery Hill" is concerned — for it is difficult to simply dismiss his photographs. The photographs indicate that something has been ignored in New England. Did Native Americans build in stone early on?[10] We recall that they were the mysterious "mound builders" whose earthen works puzzled 18th and 19th Century Americans. Or should we think of the early "red earth/red ocher" arctic area peoples as "pre-Vikings"? Their stone tools resemble Scandinavian types; though, perhaps neolithic, they probably did not mine copper, but simply fished and hunted seal and walrus. It would be interesting to know some answers to the "stone builders" puzzle.

NOTES

1. Woodman, P.C., "Filling in the Spaces in Irish Prehistory", pp. 295-314 of the British archaeological journal *Antiquity*, esp. p. 302.

2. Haywood, John, *Dark Age Naval Power*, New York: Routledge, 1991. A conservative view of sea-going capabilities.

3. Caesar, Julius, *Gallic War and Other Writings*, New York: Random House (Modern Library), 1957, Book III, pp. 64-65; translated by Moses Hadas. Was Caesar praising enemy capabilities to make his victory seem more impressive, or have scholars sometimes ignored his account? The ships described, though of shallow draft, had very high sides and were constructed of strong oak wood so that ramming them was not effective; they carried leather sails and had strong internal braces secured with iron. Since the Romans won the battle and captured these ships, one would suppose the descriptions to be accurate.

4. Furneaux, Rupert, *Ancient Mysteries*, New York: Ballantine Books, 1987 paperback, pp. 187-192. A good overview of "Mystery Hill".

5. Fell, Barry, *Bronze Age America*, Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1982, p. 53 (citing a Carbon 14 date from charcoal from "foundation layer", although he believes in much earlier dates, e.g. pp. 52-53, which seem dubious). In this and his other book, *America B.C.*, Fell also pictures dolmens — various stone monuments constructed of very large boulders supported by smaller ones — a megalithic Old World type of structure; these are shown in photographs, not claimed in words only.

6. Laing, Lloyd, and Jennifer Laing, *Celtic Britain and Ireland: The Myth of the Dark Ages*, New York: St. Martins Press, 1990, p. 131. Also see pp. 127, 128, 148, 152.

7. Trotti, Hugh H., "America's Stonehenge", *FATE Magazine*, June 1992, pp. 51-61. ("Stone" is the name of the owner of the site that others call "Mystery Hill".)

8. Hutton, Ronald, *The Pagan Religions of the Ancient British Isles: Their Nature and Legacy*, Cambridge: Blackwell, 1991. The early medieval Irish did not celebrate solstices or equinoxes (p. 177), though the early Saxons did (pp. 272, 337). We might note that some ancient Irish probably had a different view, judging by the Newgrange tomb; and, of course, Christianity came early to Ireland.

9. Hutton, Ronald, *op. cit.*, pp. 184-191.

10. Any "megalithic" link to New England creates problems because of current views of the lack of early Old World contacts and the supposed lack of competent early ships, although megalithic sites in the Old World are often found on or near Europe's coastal areas. If Native Americans built "megalithic" type structures (or if early Icelandic settlers did so), such difficulties would disappear. One is left to wonder at the "wild wheat" described in the Viking saga descriptions of "Vinland", as well as the eagerness of the natives to trade their furs without apparent treaty or preparation — remembering that the Phoenicians planted crops and traded throughout the Mediterranean in their day. Could the Celts have done so, too? Vinland's inhabitants were said to live in caves and in *holes in the ground*. Could those "holes" lead into souterrains? Or could those "holes" or "caves" have been descriptions of Eskimo igloos, which, of course, Europeans had never seen before?

MONSTER MENAGERIE

[Editor's Note: This is the third installment of a four-part series on the monsters of Japan.]

The *Oni* of Japan

by Kenji Chōno

INTRODUCTION/HISTORICAL REVIEW

The general image of this creature is a hairy, muscular giant with horns and fangs. It has an iron bat as a weapon. Although it is supposed to be an evil, spiritual being, a clear definition is almost impossible.

Historically, the Oni was not necessarily an evil existence for our ancestors. It was a symbol of extraordinary space, the world beyond our societies or the incomprehensible outside world. In other words, it was a symbol of the negative world. Sometimes it could even be a spiritual god.

Though, at first, the Oni was an invisible being, as Buddhism became popular in Japan, it was idolized under the influence of Buddhist art from the continent — the Buddhist temple uses tiles with the face of the Oni, perhaps because the sacred yet barbarous characteristics of the Oni was considered to play a proper part in expelling evil and protecting Buddha. During the Heian Era (794-1192), when Buddhism penetrated into various social levels, the image of the Oni people had agreed with that of the Buddhists, and the figure of the Oni as a sacred spirit was driven away. A typical image of such an Oni is the Oni in *Jigoku* ("Hell"), who, under the command of *Enma-daiou* ("The King of Hell"), tortures the souls of the people, who, when alive, committed crimes. These Onis' characteristics — merciless and savage — were established at this stage and used to enlighten people in teaching the conception of Buddhism.

The Oni was recognized as the existence to be conquered — such as seen in the Momotarou Legend, in which a hero, with the aid of a dog, monkey and pheasant, fought and conquered Onis who lived on Onigashima ("The Island of the Oni"); or in the Issunboushi Legend, in which a tiny boy, 3 cm high, whom an Oni swallowed, attacks that Oni from inside with a sword made from a needle. Finally, the Oni did surrender and gave him a magical hammer, with which the boy could be as large as ordinary people.

VARIETIES

I. Normal-Sized Oni

2.5 to 2.8 meters tall; hairy, muscular body; reddish (or bluish) grey in color, so that it is called *Aka-Oni* ("Red Oni") or *Ao-Oni* ("Blue Oni"); disheveled hair; two horns; slanted eyes; a mouth "torn" up to its ears; sharp fangs and nails. It is always naked except for the pants made of a tiger's hide. It uses an iron bat as a weapon.

II. Kooni ("Small Oni")

30 to 50 cm tall; a small version of the Oni. It lives in the hollow of a tree or in a cave. It possesses strong spiritual power like the other large Onis do.

III. Yamauba ("Old Woman of the Mountain")

The mouth is "torn" up to her ears and she had sharp eyes. She lives in a solitary house on a mountain. Whenever a traveler visited, she first served him kindly, then later killed him while he was asleep and devoured him. Strictly, this is not an Oni.

IV. Ushioni ("Ox Oni")

In some western Japanese areas, legends remain about a half-man, half-ox monster. Usually, its face is human, while its body is that of an ox (or sometimes vice versa).

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Those who lived in a group chose steep, rocky mountains as their bases. They attacked the nearby villages indiscriminately, robbed them of their wealth, and devoured people.

Those who lived alone hid under bridges or at the gate, which were the important traffic routes, in order to easily attack people.

The Oni can take any form it likes. Usually the Oni transforms itself into a young, attractive boy or girl to catch people totally off guard, before attacking and killing them. Sometimes the Oni takes the form of an old woman to eat a baby or child.

When the Oni devours human flesh, it tears the victims' bodies into pieces. Why the Oni favors human flesh is explained in one way as follows: Originally, the Oni was a being of the underground spirit world, but since human beings began to excavate the ancient mount, the Oni came up through the tunnels in it. However, due to the environmental differences, the Oni has to devour fresh human flesh once a week, otherwise their bodies will rot.

The male Oni likes girl's flesh, while the female favors young men's. But for both, the infant and child are their favorite food.

Although the reason is unknown, the Oni is said to dislike peaches. The legend of Momotarou perhaps came from this belief. Even now, in some local areas, it is the custom to plant a peach tree in the yard as a way of avoiding evil.

The Onis also hate beans. Thus, on February 3rd, the day of Setsubun, we throw beans, calling: "Oni wa soto, fuku wa uchi" ("Oni out, fortune in").

Parched rice is also effective. The ancient travelers carried parched rice to throw at Onis whenever being attacked during their travels.

IDENTITIES/POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS OF THE ONI PHENOMENON

1. The soul of the dead; a ghost
2. Beings of the underground country of dead people's souls, Yomi no Kuni.
3. Some anthropoids
4. A former race of Japan — In ancient times, various races existed in Japan, but one which came from the Korean Peninsula, the Tenson race, gained great authority and conquered the indigenous Kunitsukami race. Some of these ran away into the mountains and resisted the central government. They were later called Oni.
5. Stranded foreigners — Since Japan is surrounded by the sea, from time to time some shipwrecked foreigners somehow reached Japan. Because the Japanese at that time were unfamiliar with those from the West, they feared and called those foreigners Oni.
6. Horned people — Because of some kind of skin trouble or birth defect?

Theories & Ideas

New Universes:
Do "Alternates" Exist?

by Hugh Trotti

Scientists (and fiction writers) have often wondered about the possible "branching off" of universes at key times in Earth's history. What would have happened if Napoleon had won the Battle of Waterloo? And, even more interesting: Do a world or worlds exist in which he *did* win that struggle? The "what ifs" of history have engaged the imagination of many writers; even Winston Churchill played with the idea of what things would be like had the South won the American Civil War. Is there a world somewhere in which that outcome did, in fact, occur?

Mark Gardner, editor of *Elsewhen*, asked a good question in this regard in Issue #12 on Page 14. If such "branching off" could take place, where would the energy (not to mention the mass) required to produce it *come from?* The concept seems dubious if regarded in this light, much like magical incantations that might somehow multiply food or wealth; the creation of something from nothing.

There is something else to consider: What seems of great, overriding, and earth-shaking importance to us may be of no importance whatsoever to the physical cosmos that surrounds us. From time to time we suspect such may be the case, and then we may reach for religious consolation to assure us of our own importance. But it remains true that, to the elk in the forest and the earthworm in the ground, and to the trees, grasses, rocks and soil of Earth, it made no difference at all whether Napoleon won or lost.

However, there does seem one possible way that "multiple universes" may come into being. Some galaxies seem to possess the structure called a "black hole" near their centers; those structures of inordinately dense matter and tremendous gravitational pull, from which even light cannot escape. Scientists have proposed a "super-dense" state of affairs before the beginning of our own universe; this does seem markedly similar to what is believed about the matter that is packed into black holes (as was pointed out some time ago in a "Letter to the Editor" in the weekly science magazine *Science News*).

At some point, such super-dense matter may possibly explode into a new and larger state of matter when some sort of critical amount is reached, and such new state of matter may be in effect a "new universe". Such a scenario is, of course, difficult to prove. It does, however, have the virtue of an explanation for the origin of both the energy and the mass (or "physical stuff") for the formation of hypothetical new universes.

Such "universes" would not be "alternates" for any event in our little history that so interests us. But they would be new places beginning with a "clean slate", as you might say. This concept avoids the old questions of "Who made the world?" and "Who made the universe?" (The use of the word "who" brings the whole thing nearer to our level.) Nevertheless, we do have the answer for possible beginnings: both the energy and mass of "new universes" some out of black holes. Unfortunately, human history would be irrelevant in such a process.

Off the Bookshelf

I have just completed reading (sequentially) *UFO Crash at Roswell* by Randle and Schmitt, and *Out There* by Howard Blum. They both failed to convince me, although for different reasons. I thought you might be interested in my comments.

The Randle and Schmitt book managed to take a potentially sensationalistic subject and make it completely "sensationless." How one manages to make an alleged UFO crash, body recovery, and government coverup uninteresting, is, well, a testament to a chosen position of objectiveness. So objective, in fact, that not only is the reporter not involved in the story, the reader isn't either. I enjoyed reading the book—it was well-written within what it was trying to convey, and I commend the authors for their obvious efforts, both in research and restraint. It was dry, though—dry as a government report. What didn't convince me, however, was that the book operated largely on what I call the PWIK Principle—Prove What Is Known. They did produce hundreds of witnesses, but most of the witnesses could have reported the same observations in a book intending to prove the cover story. Let me put it this way: suppose your girlfriend says she has to stay overnight on a business trip. Someone tells you she is having an affair. That person produces ten witnesses. Pretty convincing, huh? However, examined dispassionately, 9 of the witnesses actually only confirm that she stayed at the motel in question at the time in question, and maybe that a man checked in shortly after her and left slightly before. The tenth witness says that he saw that man go into her room. Actually, all you have is one witness, even if several of the other witnesses also believe she is having an affair!

Now, the other factor here is that the story seems to hinge on the fact that the Government treated this "crashed balloon" incident differently than they treated others. This is a tactic often used by advocates of positions: they say, "Why would anybody act this way?", knowing that the reader, in the state of mind and with the facts on hand that the reader has, wouldn't do so. There are two elements here: Whether someone would ever do what has been suggested, and whether they would do it in the circumstances.

I think the first question is difficult to answer. Think of some of the extreme things people have done, and often without apparent motivation. For instance, in high school some friends and I spent quite a bit of time and effort trying to saw a (downed) telephone pole in half with a nylon rope. We made quite good progress, and probably could have eventually succeeded. Now, someone who chose to prove that the pole was cut by aliens (it was being essentially burned through by the friction) could say, "Why would anyone waste the time [and here might be an estimate of the hours] and the effort ['they could have made something they could have sold with that effort']?" The fact is, we would have, even though we couldn't have told you why.

The other part is what I call the Super-Logical Viewer syndrome. Remember, at the time the reader is getting the facts, he is not *living* them or particularly emotionally involved. The reader is reading. Decisions are therefore made far more logically than they would if the reader was the percipient. For instance, how many people watching slasher movies have commented that they would never leave the other people in that situation? "What an idiot!" they shout at the screen. Still, haven't we all done that? Heard a noise and gone to check on it without proper precautions? Maybe lit a cigarette (I don't personally smoke) near a flammable liquid? The late Isaac Asimov had a theory: "People are dumb." I will not accept questionable motivation as proof.

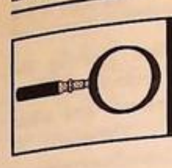
Blum, on the other hand, is *too* novelistic, just as he says he was afraid it would seem. The book is too often descriptive, subjectively descriptive. Often, the subjective description seems conjectural, since the author wasn't even there. Also, the book commits the cardinal sin: no index, not even a bibliography. Unacceptable in a work of non-fiction, and I'd often like to see them in fiction! Finally, although it is nice to have a UFO book written by someone not passionately involved, there seemed to be some gaps in facts. The Philadelphia Experiment was a novel? A "shrewdly provocative story about a voyage to a futuristic world"?

Anyway, I'm perfectly willing to accept that the government may have a crashed saucer in "Hangar 18" (even though that would make me drastically revise the book I'm working on), but these two books didn't prove it to me. What do y'all think?

Bufo Calvin

The next issue of
Elsewhen
is due out around
March 7, 1993

Be sure not to miss it!



RESEARCH TIPS

FORTEAN RESEARCH ON A BUDGET: Tip #6 — Subscribing to Which Magazines?

by Gary S. Mangiacopra

In these economic times, one has a limited amount of money that one can divert to subscribing to non-fortean magazines that would be of immense help to your investigation into fortean phenomena. But which of the literally several thousand magazines published in the United States monthly could you narrow down into, let's say, half a dozen or so, that I have found of invaluable help? They are — *TREASURE MAGAZINES*!

How can these specialized magazines, devoted to the finding of lost treasure, have a direct bearing towards fortean research you may ask? I shall explain: Whenever you get a bunch of fortean researchers together, one of the major topics of discussion is the problem of finding data about a region one is interested in. What is the terrain like; how rugged is it; how are the weather conditions during the year; is it private or public land; are there any dangerous elements; what equipment should one take with you when you enter such regions; are there any local historical societies that may be of help; are there any local residents; has anything unusual happened in the past; etc.

These questions are time-consuming in regards to preliminary inquiries that may cost time and money trying to get background information before doing any in-the-field investigations. They will produce a strain on your limited resources. But I have found that treasure magazines offer many answers to your regions of interest by people who have been there, and reported their successes and difficulties they encountered. As compared to other backpacking or travel magazines which usually avoid reporting to their readers of problems their writers have encountered, treasure magazine writers are *very blunt* about any problems they encounter; problems that they stress others should avoid, if possible, or stupid mistakes or errors of judgement they did without realizing it. These will help future treasure hunters in their investigations — or even save their lives! Some examples are: Be careful when investigating abandoned farmhouse sites for covered wells that one could fall into; do not enter abandoned mines due to poisonous air, possibility of collapse or if no one knows you are there; the risk of poisonous snakes; etc. The list can go on and on.

These treasure magazines office tips to the treasure hunters on how to conduct research to discover hidden local treasures, such as where to acquire maps past and present of the region, which historical societies or local libraries are useful for background information, the legalities of investigation for treasure, new in-the-field equipment that is being used, etc. These are suggestions that one can easily adapt to fortean research and have helped me many times in my investigations of unexplained phenomena.

It must be remembered that treasure hunters are the *most pragmatic* researchers one can encounter. They are investing their limited time and money, and they expect to be rewarded for their efforts. They are the *first* to discredit any treasure lead that does not hold up upon investigation. Their degree of reliability is one of the highest that I have found for such a regularly published monthly magazine. I stand fully behind it when I say that one should subscribe to them if you have a limited amount of money tha. you can devote to subscribing to magazines that can help you in your fortean research. The ones currently being published and one can find at the newsstand are as follows: *Treasure*, *Treasure Found*, *Treasure Fact*, *Lost Treasure*, and *Western and Eastern Treasure*. If you cannot find them at your newsstand, write to me care of S.U.P.R.A. and I will send you their address(es).

There is also one more major reason as to why you should subscribe to these magazines. They *are* also a good source for fortean reports! In the past few years they occasionally carried reports of Bigfoot, literally haunted treasures, ancient Roman coins being found in the U.S., archaeological puzzles, and some other strange phenomena that these treasure hunters have encountered. It should be remembered that there are *more* treasure hunters out in the field as compared to the number of fortean researchers who are doing fieldwork.

TOTAL ECLIPSE!
ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL OF THE OCCULT, BIZARRE AND UNUSUAL!

"The Wizards Speak Only During The Total Eclipse"

1 YEAR — 6 ISSUES — $12.00
Sample Issue Only $2.00
PO Box 1055
Suisun City, CA 94585

Psychic Scenarios

FROM A PSI-OLOGIST'S NOTEBOOK: Definitions

by James Baker

CONGRUENCY/CONGRUENT

In parapsychology, terms applied to those phantoms, apparitions, or appearances that are in harmony or accord with their surroundings. That is, the surroundings of the percipient, as, for example, in those cases where a phantom may stand at the end of the bed and the lower-most part of the phantom is not visible because of the obstructing bed. A phantom which enters a doorway, ascends or descends stairs, and is of normal and natural size would exhibit congruency. However, such adaptations, according to G.M.N. Tyrell (*Apparitions*), may be worked out through the joint action of sender and receiver (or percipient), a subconscious and automatic process on the part of both parties. Congruency may be met with in crystallomancy or crystal-vision when the size of the projected imagery is determined by the size and perimeter of the crystal ball.

INCONGRUENCY/INCONGRUENT

In parapsychology, terms applied to those phantoms, apparitions, or appearances that are not in harmony or accord with their surroundings. That is, the surroundings, background, or visual field of the percipient, as, for example, when a telepathic or clairvoyant image may appear in "midair" or otherwise be superimposed on a real, objective background but not in harmony with it. The incongruency of phantasmic appearances suggests that they are subjective and are not self-conscious, autonomous entities.

CATAPLASIA/CATAMORPHISM

These terms can be applied to phantasmal appearances, whatever their origin may be, when there is a diminution or fading out, especially of their lower parts, as, for example, the lower limbs. Cataplasia seems to be characteristic of a certain class of phantom, if one may judge from the literature.

The term *cataplasia* may be applied also to the attenuation of phantasmal figures in other respects, as when a phantom will appear translucent, transparent, and when finally approaching absolute invisibility. Cataplasia or catamorphism — the terms may be used interchangeably — may be static or progressive, if not inconstant. Such a feature in many cases suggests the possible telepathic origin of phantasms, whether from the living or the supposititious dead. Cataplasia has allegedly occurred in mediumistic seances. Conscious, autonomous entities, according to the claimants, have occurred in physical mediumship. In general, the behavior of alleged spirit materializations has indicated the presence and activity of autonomous, self-conscious entities. As opposed to telepathic apparitions, it would seem that projected "astral bodies" (*pneumae*) of living persons may be featured by cataplasia.

Now the News...

This is the third of a series of interesting newsclippings in *Elsewhen*. I have decided to retain this feature on a semi-regular basis. It will appear when I receive worthy articles.

• • •

RUMORS OF MONSTER TURTLE IN LAKE FRIGHTENS ILLINOIS TOWN

(JUNE 16) COMTEX — ISLAND LAKE, IL — Some call it Moby Turtle. Others say it's the Loch Ness Turtle, Nessie Turtle for short. Daily, the monster turtle legend grows.

The aquatic reptile throwing scares into Island Lake villagers is said, in certain circles, to have a shell that measures 6 feet across. There's even a rumor that somebody's dog is missing.

Two weeks ago, word first spread through Island Lake — a normally quiet town of 5,000, northwest of Chicago — that a huge snapping turtle chased a dog that was out for a swim in the village's namesake lake. The rumor swiftly changed: Soon the turtle had bitten the dog, and before long it had eaten it, according to Mayor Charles Amrich. He dispatched the village water czar, an avid angler, to catch the culprit.

By last week's end, Island Lake Water Superintendent Neal DeYoung had snagged five large turtles, three weighing between 30 and 45 pounds, the mayor said. But the big one, believed to weigh about 60 pounds, remained at large.

The captured turtles have been shelled over to state conservation officials, who took them to another location, the mayor said.

"Personally, I haven't seen it, but people who have, hold their arms in a large circle to describe it," said DeYoung, who uses chicken liver as bait on a 170-pound test line tied to several steel leaders with treble hooks.

They are determined to catch the mud-colored snapper out of fear that it may harm some village child enjoying a summer vacation swim in the lake.

(Contributed by Bufo Calvin)

The Wajer Reports

The Myth of the Great Lakes Triangle

I recently came upon a book, entitled *The Great Lakes Triangle*, by one Jay Gourley, published in 1977. Having lived in the Great Lakes region most of my life, and having never heard of such a thing, I was fascinated. In this book he catalogs ship after ship and plane after plane which have disappeared, been wrecked, sank, etc., in the lakes. Each case has some element of mystery involved: Bodies never found, bodies found but no wreckage, complete disappearance... He proposes that the area of the Great Lakes has some great force at work causing these disasters.

Well, no offense, Mr. Gourley, but I say rubbish. Even allowing for the fact that advanced deep-water search techniques we use now were not possible then, I don't believe there was ever grounds for such a radical theory.

I give him credit for a good try, though. According to data analysis he has done, he claims the Great Lakes account for even more mysterious disappearances than the Bermuda Triangle. He attempts to show connections between all kinds of phenomena and presents several theories on what he feels might be happening. While his research into the histories of the specific cases is excellent, I feel there is no "terrifying revelation" to be had here.

After several chapters of carefully documented "disappearances" of various types, he puts forth several theories. These range from the more mundane ideas of magnetic disturbances caused by large iron ore deposits (which have been verified) to things quite radical. Two theories involved the fact that true north and magnetic north (which are not the same) are roughly aligned in compass heading along a line which passes through the Great Lakes and extends to the southern portion of the Bermuda Triangle. This line either causes some distortion in the space-time continuum or, in another case, serves as some sort of runway for UFO's. Or both (?)

He claims that storms arise completely without explanation, lights are spotted over the Lakes, etc., and that all this leads to a mystery as great as the Bermuda Triangle.

One question I would like to ask Mr. Gourley is, has he ever actually lived near the Great Lakes?

Yes, many ships and planes have disappeared. Yes, storms arise without warning. Yes, there have been UFO's spotted over the lakes. What do they have to do with each other? Here is the perspective of a long time resident, with some facts Mr. Gourley may not have had access to.

To start off, I do not deny there are dangers in the Lakes. What I deny is that these dangers are linked in some great epic mystery of the universe. The disproportionately large number of incidents in the lakes are perfectly explainable and to be expected.

Firstly, the Great Lakes were formed during the last Ice Age, the product of glaciers. The lakes and area surrounding, as Mr. Gourley states, are rich in iron-ore. This does cause areas of magnetic disturbance which can interfere with navigational and radio equipment. He claims many ships and planes disappeared without a distress call. Well, if a storm arises and magnetic disturbance is already present, what are the chances of such a call being heard? I suspect that calls were issued in some cases, but never received. Also, as he states, the lakes aren't that big. A plane could cross Lake Erie longwise in a matter of minutes. Might not a plane undergoing instrument interference just "wait it out" thinking they will fly past it any minute, and meanwhile go off course, not realizing it until it's too late?

Also, having been carved out over millennia, the lakes are exceptionally deep, and some sections of the lake bottoms are only becoming accessible with modern technology. The extensive searches done in the past were actually very limited in scope. As an example I put forth the fairly recent discovery of the famous ship *Edmund Fitzgerald*. It was found on the bottom of a deep section of Lake Superior, and investigation has confirmed it was sunk by a storm on the lake.

Also, Mr. Gourley states that the area of the lakes is "sparsely populated". Since when have cities like Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Toledo, and Milwaukee added up to "sparse population"? And add to this the fact that these cities have always been very active in industrial and shipping ventures, capitalizing on the native iron and forests, as well as being distribution centers for all kinds of agricultural and manufactured goods. These cities put out a great deal of traffic on and over the lakes. The more traffic in a given area, the more likely accidents become.

A third major factor is that of weather conditions. He states that storms arise suddenly out of clear skies. This is true. But it is because the area of the Great Lakes is where warm air, rising from the Gulf of Mexico, most often meets

the jet stream, which brings arctic air from Siberia and Alaska. When cold fronts meet warm fronts, the result is storms. Other less dramatic results are fog and wind. This is so constant that even on days when things appear to be clear and calm, there are often craft advisories, warning private boaters to stay off the water. The conditions are worst in late autumn and early spring. Even the ocean-going freighters usually end routes on the lakes by the end of October, and do not resume until the end of April. Many of the reports listed are of those who ventured out during this fall to winter period when not only rain, but snow and ice become dangers.

To address his reports of UFO's on the lakes, well, UFO's have been reported everywhere. There is no necessary connection to ship disappearances. The Great Lakes area is hardly a UFO hotspot.

As possible support for the space-time continuum disturbance theory, Mr. Gourley points out stories going back to the Native Americans in the region of large creatures in the lakes. Well, this may be true, as I myself presented such a report not too long ago ("The Saga Continues", *Elsewhen*, Volume Two, Number Three). Who knows what lurks in the depths?

A few of the ships which disappeared in the lakes may have truly fallen victim to some space-time disturbance or something, but it is my feeling that most of the numerous reports he presents may be solved in the next few years, as we continue to explore the bottoms of the lakes. Until now, I think, it has just been true that, in the words of Gordon Lightfoot: "Superior, they say, never gives up its dead when the skies of November turn gloomy."

Kimberly Wajer

[I bought the above-mentioned book when it came out during the height of Bermuda Triangle interest at the end of the 1970's and still have it. I agree with Kimberly that with the passage of time most of Mr. Gourley's theories no longer hold water. At the time, though, it was popular enough to have been featured in an episode of *In Search Of...*, which I managed to videotape not long ago during its rebroadcast on the Arts & Entertainment Network. *The Editor*]

EXPLAINED!
by Bufo Calvin

TRANSLUCENT TIME TRAVELLERS

THE MYSTERY: Although ghosts appear so normal that it is only by context that their spectral nature is revealed, some apparitions are see-through.

PAST SOLUTIONS: "There ain't no such thing" and hallucinations can be as transparent as they want; the "ghosts" are in the process of forming; the apparition is actually an astral traveller and as such has no body; there is insufficient psychic energy present for a full manifestation; the "spirit" being is simply a replay of something that has happened before and the "recording" has faded.

THE FREE FLOATING THEORY OF TIME TRAVEL SOLUTION: My theory, inspired by an article by Mark Gardner, states that time travel occurs spontaneously. This translucence bothered me a bit at first—I didn't want to invoke "astral time travel". My brother, the physicist, suggested a solution. The theory already stated that what travelled was selected by its electromagnetic signature. If the person being seen was not travelling, but only the light from them was, one could see through it. Even more interestingly, only certain colors might be selected, creating the "pale" ghostly figures sometimes seen. It would be expected that interaction would be unlikely with this type of phantom.

DOUBTFUL ISLANDS

THE MYSTERY: Some islands appear to have an intermittent existence; sometimes they are there, sometimes they are not.

PAST SOLUTIONS: The islands were mischarted to begin with; later seekers misnavigated; the islands are volcanic, and "pop up and down"; the travellers entered another dimension; the islands are fairy lands; what were thought to be islands were really seaweed, whales, or "floating islands".

THE FREE FLOATING THEORY OF TIME TRAVEL SOLUTION: My theory also allows for geographic displacement, although that is less likely to occur. Of course, it would be ridiculous to propose that entire islands uproot and plop down again in another year. Instead, what happens is that the *boat* time travels to a period in which the island existed! The passengers are simply unaware of the unusual nature of their voyage. The theory also requires that they return to their original time, again without noticing.

[We welcome comments on any articles! *The Editor*]

LOCAL CLIPS

August 14, 1992 ▸

November 16, 1992 ▾

Welcome to a new annual feature in *Elsewhen*'s December issue — clippings of interest from our local papers, collected during the course of the year. This time all are from the *Statesman Journal* of Salem, Oregon. I hope the readers enjoy them! *Ashley K.*

Bigfoot trap comes up empty

The Associated Press

APPLEGATE — It looks like a big empty box, a 10-foot-square structure reinforced with metal bolts and anchored with telephone poles along the Collins Mountain Trail in the Rogue River National Forest.

And in 18 years, it hasn't trapped even one Bigfoot.

"For a long time, only a few local people knew about the Bigfoot trap," Su Rolle, the ranger for the Applegate District, said. "But more and more people are stopping to ask where it is."

As a result, the U.S. Forest Service plans to place an interpretive sign at the site.

"People often ask us about the trap and if we've seen any Bigfoot tracks," Rolle said. "There is a tremendous amount of local interest in stories of Bigfoot."

The trap was built in 1974 by the Eugene-based North American Wildlife Research, which no longer exists.

The research group was drawn to the area after local miner Perry Lovell found 18-inch human-like tracks in his garden near the Applegate River. The creature reportedly had a 6-foot stride.

The group was intent on proving the existence of Bigfoot, or Sasquatch, and received a special-use permit from the Forest Service to build the trap.

The group used 2-by-12 lumber, reinforced with metal bolts and plates. The door is a heavy metal grate encased in a steel frame.

Ross Knotts, 80, a retired Methodist minister, delights in leading hikers to the fortified Bigfoot trap.

A sign now marks the Collins Mountain Trail trailhead. If you follow the trail about three-quarters of a mile, then take the left fork of the trail, you'll spot the trap about 200 feet beyond an old miner's cabin.

"These people were very serious about trying to catch it," Rolle said. "It took quite a bit of energy and effort to build that trap. It was no joke."

The trap is the only one of its kind, said anthropologist Grover Krantz, of Washington State University. Krantz has studied Bigfoot for decades.

"There have been lots of reports from the general area," he said. "In fact, half of all the Sasquatch reports are concentrated in the Northwest."

Krantz, who has been teaching anthropology since 1966, is convinced that the creature does exist. His book, *Big Foot Prints*, was published two weeks ago.

"The book is an analysis of scientific evidence of the existence of the Sasquatch," he said. It includes footprints, anecdotes and a one-minute film shot of an ape-like creature taken near Bluff Creek in Northern California in 1987. That site is about 50 miles south of the trap.

"Do we have definitive proof? No," Krantz said. "But there have been lots of footprints found, and a lot of sightings."

But none trapped.

Scientist says odds are 50-50 on bigfoot

PULLMAN, Wash. — Grover Krantz, a Washington State University anthropologist, gives last week's reported bigfoot sighting near Lapwai, Idaho, a 50-50 chance of being authentic.

Krantz, who has spent more than two decades studying the legendary, ape-like creature said to roam the forests of the Pacific Northwest, said such a hoax would have involved an incredible amount of work.

At the scene about 90 miles southeast of Spokane, Wash., Krantz said he found tracks in a plowed field. The footprints were about size 12 or 13 and relatively undefined in the loose soil, but the stride was fairly long, he said.

Witnesses said they saw one hairy creature, descending a hillside and later hiding in bushes near the Nez Perce National Historical Park's visitor center near Spalding.

— From wire reports

Salem anglers find ocean phenomenon

By Henry Miller
The Statesman Journal

■ Oregon fishing report: Page 4D

A couple of Salem salmon anglers got themselves in hot water off the Oregon coast.

Rich Chung said he and Lee Hibler were fishing July 28 with Thom Kaffun about a mile outside of the jetty at Tillamook, when Chung noticed that the boat's electronic thermometer was reading 72 to 74 degrees.

That's about 10 degrees hotter than Oregon coastal ocean water ever gets.

"I thought something was wrong with my boat thermometer," Kaffun, president of the Salem Chapter of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders, said. "I thought something was screwy."

Chung said: "I've never, never, never seen it like that. It was warm. You could put your hand in it."

Bill Quinn, professor of oceanography at OSU, was equally surprised.

"Boy, that's awful high, isn't it?" he said. "According to the charts, the highest temperature at that latitude is 17 degrees (Celsius, 62.6 Fahrenheit).

"The ocean in general along the coast, where it gets a little upwelling, gets to 55 or 57 degrees."

Bot. Quinn and Jane Huyer, professor of physical oceanography at OSU, agreed that the warm water patch probably was caused by some Columbia River outflow floating on top of the ocean.

Huyer said: "It's conceivable, and the only thing I can imagine is that some of the Columbia River outflow was closer to shore than usual.

"Maybe one spot was more unusually warm than normal. That would be consistent with Columbia River outflow."

Water from the Columbia reaches the ocean with a salinity content of about 10 parts per thousand, compared with an ocean salinity of 35 parts per thousand, she said.

The hot spot the anglers drifted into probably was caused by some unmixed, warmer Columbia River water forming a bubble of fresh water, called a lens, floating on top of the ocean and heating up, Huyer said.

Kaffun said he didn't know how big the warm patch of water was, but both he and Chung said they couldn't find signs of life.

"It was a desert; there was nothing there," Kaffun said.

Chung said, "There wasn't any fish. There weren't even any seals."

Kaffun said it was just another incident in a year of screwy weather and water off the coast.

"The water I ran into Sunday was 63 degrees. They were catching sharks, lots of sharks, right off the mouth of Tillamook Bay," he said. "You think you had a chinook on, and it was a sand shark.

"I've been fishing this for umteen years, and I can't figure this out. About mid-July, everything just went bonkers."

▲ August 13, 1992

(Continued from Page 4)

After climbing over a rickety fence, we walked along the crumbling remains of a taxiway that had seen better days. A path ran from the taxiway to the side of the control tower. The condition of the tower is pathetic nowadays. The downstairs portion is a mess of rubbish and sheep droppings; the upstairs portion is completely gone. I climbed the outside stairway (missing its handrail) to the bare concrete slab that had been the floor of the upper story. Years of weather have removed most signs of the previous architecture. I looked out from this vantage point across the meadow and tried to picture Hurricanes taking off to defend Scotland and Northeast England against the Luftwaffe fifty years before.

The control tower ruins are a center of some reported hauntings. Strangely enough, none of my photos of the control tower turned out, although every other one I took that day did! I intended to revisit the site again for a much longer period of time but never managed to. Considering the condition of most of this former military airfield, it does not take much imagination to picture it being haunted by restless spirits on dark, moonless nights.

Now to some of the stories I heard from members of the Montrose Aerodrome Museum Society... (Please bear with me, I do have a good memory, but these were told to me over a year ago.)

First of all, the story of a "pilot" vanishing in front of people en route to the mess hall was explained away by a man who worked at the aerodrome during the war. He says he worked at the mess and sometimes took a shortcut between buildings. If someone had been walking behind him and glanced away briefly, that person would have turned back to find the fellow in front of him had suddenly disappeared. This had been explained to "witnesses" back then but some of them must have been more willing to believe the ghostly explanation. No supernatural cause here. Also, the 50th anniversary sighting by Sir Masefield was apparently based on a story he told to pull the legs of friends, but was taken seriously by someone.

Now as to actual stories: During the war a sentry on duty one night saw the "ghost" of a well-known local man who had recently been killed in action with the RAF in North Africa. On another occasion, a WAAF operating a tea cart for the airmen was shocked to see a pilot she knew had been killed in action walking towards her. She screamed and fainted. When she regained her senses, he was nowhere to be seen. On several occasions, during and right after the war, locals reported seeing a silent, phantom fighter flying in the direction of the Basin (a tidal estuary a couple of miles from the aerodrome). Legend has it that a German plane went down there during the war and was never recovered from the thick mud. On many occasions up to the present day people have witnessed shadowy figures in and around the ruined control tower, remaining hangars (see cover photos), and open areas. If I learn of any updates, I will let you know about them.

Research Trip 1

GREAT BRITAIN 1991: A SUMMARY

Due to space considerations and giving priority to other people's articles, I have postponed this twice before. Thanks for your patience!

My combination of long-overdue vacation and research trip to Great Britain in September 1991 was a great success, although I saw less than half of what I had originally planned — I ran out of money! I was surprised at how well the weather cooperated during my trip — quite unusual for September in England or Scotland!

My time in London was spent visiting the Museum of the Moving Image, dedicated to motion pictures and television; the Tower of London, perhaps haunted by a dozen or more ghosts; the Royal Air Force Museum at Hendon, supposedly haunted by a pilot; revisiting the Imperial War Museum, which had changed a lot since 1982; and seeing a performance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's great musical, *Starlight Express*, which took my breath away.

From London I took a pre-paid tour to see ancient Bath, the Salisbury Cathedral and Stonehenge. The skies were gray at first but brightened up later. I enjoyed seeing the famous Roman baths which had been excavated years ago. Warm water from hot springs still comes out of Roman plumbing! Visiting Stonehenge was a life-long dream fulfilled. There is no way to adequately explain the feeling of rounding a curve and suddenly seeing the famous structure there in front of your eyes! I felt like I was completing a pilgrimage. I didn't want to leave and was the last person back on the bus. The visit to the cathedral was cancelled due to Prince Charles' scheduled speech there to appeal for support of restoration. Instead, we visited the famous Avebury Stones, erected centuries ago by ancient Britons. That was an unexpected bonus I was thrilled about! I took tons of photos during the day.

Then on to York... Years ago I was told by someone that a trip to England was a waste if I didn't see historic York. He was right! I enjoyed myself so much I stayed an extra day. I visited the Jorvik Viking Museum and spent the whole day exploring until my feet were sore. The second night I went on a Ghost Walk where a guide told about the city's ghosts! Absolutely fascinating!

The rest of my time was spent in the Montrose area of Scotland where I was stationed years ago in the Navy. See the Montrose Ghost article for some details. Alas, my time quickly passed. I had to cancel my visit to Liverpool, the home of the Beatles, because I was down to £50 by then.

I gathered enough material to write from for years. I am now considering another trip in 1994. That may be a guided tour conducted by me to visit various sites.

The Following Are Some of the Exciting Subjects That Appear in *Elsewhen*:

- ✓ Time Travel & Temporal Anomalies
- ✓ Lake Monsters & Sea Serpents
- ✓ Bigfoot & The Abominable Snowman
- ✓ Ghosts, Poltergeists & Hauntings
- ✓ Vampirism & Lycanthropy
- ✓ UFO's & USO's
- ✓ Lost Civilizations & Technology
- ✓ Mystery Spots & Vortices
- ✓ The Bermuda/Devil's Triangle
- ✓ Out-Of-Place Artifacts (Oöparts)
- ✓ Impossible Fossils
- ✓ ESP & Other Psychic Abilities
- ✓ Unusual Skyfalls
- ✓ The New Age Movement
- ✓ Hoaxes, Scandals & Conspiracies
- ✓ Spontaneous Human Combustion
- ✓ Pyramids & Megalithic Sites
- ✓ Fairies, Elves, Mermaids & Others
- ✓ Strange Aerial & Ocean Phenomena
- ✓ Mysterious Appearances & Disappearances
- ✓ Witchcraft & Other Pagan Practices
- ✓ Near-Death Experiences
- ✓ Meteorological Anomalies & Ghost Lights
- ✓ Plus Much, Much More...

ELSEWHEN ORDER FORM

Complete form and send payment in U.S. funds to:
S.U.P.R.A.
P.O. Box 20173, Keizer, OR 97307 U.S.A.

- ☐ **1 Year** — $8 U.S./$10 Can & Mex/$11 Int'l
- ☐ **2 Years** — $15 U.S./$18 Can & Mex/$20 Int'l
- ☐ **Issues 1-8** — $1.50/$1.75/$2.50 each
- ☐ **Issues 9-11** — $1.75/$2.00/$2.50 each
- ☐ **Issues 12 on** — $2.00/$2.50/$3.00 each

All prices include postage & handling charges.

(Please Print Clearly)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Country _____

We also recommend you check out & support:

FATE
170 Future Way
Marion, OH 43305

Strange Magazine
P.O. Box 2246
Rockville, MD 20852

The International Fortean Organization
P.O. Box 367
Arlington, VA 22210-0367

International Society of Cryptozoology
P.O. Box 43070
Tucson, AZ 85733

Fortean Times
20 Paul Street
Frome, Somerset BA11 1DX
GREAT BRITAIN

U.F.O. Newsclipping Service
Route 1, Box 220
Plumerville, AR 72127

Intuitive Explorations
Box 561
Quincy, IL 62306-0561

Total Eclipse
P.O. Box 1055
Suisun City, CA 94585

Penn. Assn. for the Study of the Unexplained
6 Oakhill Ave.
Greensburg, PA 15601

Fortean Research Center
P.O. Box 94627
Lincoln, NE 68509

Fenómenos Anómalos
C/. Belén, 15-1° Dcha.
28004 Madrid, SPAIN

B.C.S. Cryptozoology Club
#308 - 8790 Cartier Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 4V2
CANADA

Ghost Research Society
P.O. Box 205
Oaklawn, IL 60454-0205

Far Out
9171 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 300
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

UFO Encounters
P.O. Box 1142
Norcross, GA 30091

Coming in the Next Issue of *Elsewhen*:

The Mystery of the Men In Black

The Ghosts of RAF Hendon

"666" and "Medusa's Lair"

Fortean Research On A Budget - Tip #7

Imaginary Time, i(t)

The Tengu of Japan

Plus Much, Much More...

ELSEWHEN is published four times a year in March, June, September and December. The subscription rate in the U.S. is $8.00 for 4 issues. Back issues 1-8 are available for $1.50 each and issues 9-11 are $1.75 each. From Issue 12 on the U.S. price of *Elsewhen* is $2.00/copy. See inside for other rates.

SUBMISSIONS are *always* welcomed. We are interested in all "fortean" subjects. We want short articles, illustrations, letters, and book reviews. Longer articles or a continuing series will be considered. All articles should be typed or clearly printed, and accompanied by return postage if the original is to be returned.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Each issue of *Elsewhen* is prepared months in advance. Submissions should therefore be received *at least six months* before the issue requested. For example, if you want something to be in Issue 17, it should be in the Editor's hands before Issue 15 is sent out.

SUBMISSION MEDIA: *Elsewhen* is prepared using WordPerfect 5.1®. Submissions on 3½" or 5¼" floppy disks are greatly appreciated and save a lot of time. Typed articles and illustrations should be on white paper. All submitted material is subject to editing for spelling, grammar and style, and may be shortened to fit available space. You can also submit to us on GEnie via M.GARDNER2.

Remember, *Elsewhen* can only grow and improve with the participation of all contributors and subscribers. Your thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and comments are solicited and welcomed. S.U.P.R.A. values each and every member!

Beasts and Battles, by Hugh H. Trotti, New York: Rivercross Publishing, 1989, hardcover, 175 pages, $18.95 plus $2.00 postage and handling.

BIZARRE beliefs in history considered seriously:

Between literal acceptance of puzzling phenomena and the dismissal of such as hoax or delusion, there may be a third approach --analysis of such as midunderstood real things. How might Medusa, Fire-Breathing Dragon and Atlantis have been real? What could be involved in Time Travel? The new book Beasts and Battles contains analysis of such, as well as of some historical battles, approaching data with new interpretations.

Order from H. H. Trotti, 230 Wilton Dr., Decatur, GA 30030; allow three weeks for delivery; no C.O.D's - include check with order.